

CLASSIFICATION SECRET - [REDACTED]

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT [REDACTED]

TOPIC Military Activities in the Area of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army

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EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

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DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

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DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE PREPARED

10 August 1955

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REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. At 1230 on 20 July 1955, a train carrying 4 SP guns [REDACTED] and 10 T-34/85 tanks was seen at the Eberswalde railroad station. The departure of the train could not be observed. 1 At 2100 on 21 July, 16 sedans, 35 trucks, 1 ambulance and 2 trailers were unloaded and left for the Schuetzen Kaserne (4342) in Eberswalde. The majority of the motor vehicles entered the installation through Gate I, and the others entered the headquarters section. 2

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2. At about 1500 on 22 July, a shipment which, among other materiel, included 5 trucks towing 2 x 122-mm field howitzers was unloaded at the Bernau railroad station. An additional 20 trucks, 10x122-mm field howitzers, 1 jeep, 1 radio or repair-shop truck, and 2 field kitchens were seen in the area of the railroad station. The vehicles left for the Luftnachrichten Kaserne (4241) in Bernau at about 1530. 3

3. Between 19 and 23 July, former Army Clothing Depot I (4244) in Bernau appeared to be occupied as follows:

Elements of the artillery unit were apparently absent after 20 July. Only about 20 field howitzers were observed. All elements of the rocket-launcher unit with 12 observed rocket launchers were in the installation.

On 21 July, 15 to 20 x85-mm AT guns were being cleaned in front of the sheds. All 100-mm AT guns and tractors appeared to be in the installation. The total number of soldiers stationed there was estimated at about 2,000. 4

4. Between 19 and 23 July, the Luftnachrichten Kaserne (4241) in Bernau was occupied by an engineer unit, a tank unit, 6 tanks of which were observed in the sheds, and an artillery unit which returned on 22 July. 3 The AT unit was no longer observed in the

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installation, which appeared to be occupied by a total of some 2,000 soldiers. Training was predominantly conducted at the Schoenow post training grounds. 5

5. At 1100 on 18 July, a shipment of approximately 30 trucks including Nos. B 2-38-92, P 8-56-15, and P 8-56-16, approximately 15 x 122-mm field howitzers, 4 field kitchens, and 8 boxcars went from Altes Lager through Jueterbog, presumably toward Berlin. 3

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6. Between 12 and 22 July, the installation on Braunsdorferstrasse (4501) in Fuerstenwalde was occupied to capacity by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. Training with infantry weapons and guns was held in the barracks yard. 6

7. After 1400 on 20 July, three columns were seen en route on the Autobahn near Langewahl, about 5 km, southeast of Fuerstenwalde. The columns came from the direction of Berlin and, near Langewahl, turned toward Beeskow-Frankfurt/Oder. The first column consisted of 18 tanks with 6 bogie wheels, and 3 track-supporting rollers; 12 T-34/85 tanks, each carrying 4 to 6 soldiers with full field equipment; 35 to 40 trucks, each carrying 20 to 25 soldiers with full field equipment; 1 sedan occupied by a driver and 3 officers; 1 truck occupied by approximately 10 KVP officers, and 1 sedan with an American license plate carrying 3 officers. The column may have proceeded to Lieberose. 7

8. The observation of the installations of the Fuerstenwalde post, particularly of the kaserne on Braunsdorferstrasse, had recently become very difficult. Sentries were posted not only at the entrance but also in the opposite woods. Civilians were carefully watched. 6

9. On 16 and 17 July, the Panzer Kaserne (4002) in Bad Freienwalde was occupied by approximately 250 soldiers, the majority of whom probably belonged to the driving-school unit. [redacted]

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[redacted] Between 2100 and 2230 on 17 July, a mechanized unit entered the installation from the direction of Hohenfinow-Dannenberg. This unit included 1 jeep of a new type, 5 two-axle armored personnel carriers, each occupied by about 5 soldiers, 20 three-axle armored personnel carriers, each occupied by 10 to 12 soldiers, 10 trucks, including 8 towing 57-mm AT guns; 6 trucks, including 4 towing 120-mm mortars; 35 trucks with personnel; 3 trucks with ammunition and 6 trucks with field kitchens. [redacted]

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[redacted] The unit had a total of 600 to 700 soldiers. In the evening of 17 July, the installation was occupied by an estimated 900 soldiers. On 18 and 19 July, guns and vehicles were cleaned in the barracks area. The tank unit could not be observed. 8

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1. [redacted] Comment. In spite of the observed number of the SP gun, the shipment cannot be identified.

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2. Comment. Elements of the headquarters units of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army which left on 6 July, presumably for a major command-post exercise, returned to their installations. 25X1
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3. Comment. The return from Jueterbog of the elements of the 676 How Arty Regt of the 6th Gds Mecz Div, which had left on 18 July, 25X1
The observations in paragraph 5 tend to indicate that the unit was detained at the Zinna railroad station on 18 July and subsequently engaged in firing in the northern portion of the Jueterbog training grounds. 25X1
4. Comment. A loading of artillery units in Bernau after 20 July is reported for the first time. 25X1
5. Comment. After the return of the artillery unit to the Luftnachrichten Kaserne on 22 July, the installation was apparently again occupied to capacity. There were no indications of AT guns being entrained. They may have been at the Schoenow post training area. 25X1
6. Comment. After the transfer to Berlin-Karlshorst of the 24th Gds Mecz Regt in the summer of 1953, the installation on Braunsdorferstrasse, 25X1
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The fact that the installation was occupied to capacity tends to indicate that additional units, presumably of the 7th Gds Mecz Div, were stationed there. In this connection, the training on 4 x 57-mm AT guns and 6 x 37-mm AA guns in March 1955 is worth noting. The intensified guard duties in Fuerstenwalde, particularly at the installation on Braunsdorferstrasse, cannot be explained. The measure may have been connected with changes in the occupation of individual installations. 25X1
7. Comment. The columns cannot be identified. It is possible that the units went to Lieberose. The KVP officers presumably were to watch demonstrations. 25X1
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8. Comment. the tank units, 25X1
which transferred to Templin on 2/3 July, returned to Bad Freienwalde from Gross Schoenebeck (Templin) on 18 July 25X1
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The motor-vehicle belong to the Bad Freienwalde post of the 6th Gds Mecz Div. 25X1
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